

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00690 181637Z

60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-04

EA-06 FRB-01 INR-05 IO-04 NEA-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 SWF-01

OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-01 L-01 FEA-01 INT-05 SCI-02

AEC-05 ACDA-05 DRC-01 /100 W
----- 037850

R 181615Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4130

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0690

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, ENRG

SUBJ: EC COUNCIL MEETING - GOL OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON FRENCH

ATTITUDE TOWARD ECG

REF: EC BRUSSELS 8049

1. CHARLES REICHLING, MFA DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC RELATIONS, IN CONVERSATION WITH ECON OFFICER
OCTOBER 18, CONFIRMED REFTEL ACCOUNT OF FRENCH FOREIGN
MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES PRESENTATION ON ENERGY TO EC
COUNCIL OCTOBER 15 BUT STATED THAT FRENCH INTRANSIGENCE
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PAGE 02 LUXEMB 00690 181637Z

WAS MORE APPARENT THAN REAL.

2. REICHLING NOTED THAT FRENCH DID NOT DIRECTLY OPPOSE THE IEP. SAUVAGNARGUES DESCRIBED THE IEP AS "INSUFFICIENT" SINCE IT TREATED ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE ENERGY PROBLEM (I.E., THE EVENTUALITY OF AN EMBARGO) AND "AGGRESSIVE" AS WELL AS "A POOR DEPARTURE POINT FOR A PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE -- BUT HE DID CHARACTERIZE THE FRENCH POSITION AS PRELIMINARY (POSITION D'OUVERTURE).

3. REICHLING BELIEVES THAT THE FRENCH ARE TACTICALLY STALLING FOR TIME AND THAT PARIS IS SEARCHING FOR A MEANS OF BENEFITTING FROM IEP COORDINATION WITHOUT OFFICIALLY JOINING TH IEP AT ITS INCEPTION. HE ADDED THAT THE "GHOST OF JOBERT" STILL HANGS OVER FRENCH POLICY ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT PARIS HAS NOT YET MADE A DECISION REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN THE IEP. THUS, THE CONFLICTING SIGNALS NOW COMING FROM PARIS.

4. REICHLING DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE FRENCH WILL BLOCK EC COMMISSION PARTICIPATION IN THE IEP SINCE SUCH PARTICIPATION KEEPS THE DOOR OPEN FOR EVENTUAL FRENCH MEMBERSHIP WITHOUT FORMALLY COMMITTING THEMSELVES AT THIS POINT.FARKAS

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